



PATENT
4002-1025-1

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Dirk MAULER

Application No. 10/736,541

Filed December 17, 2003

SOFT AND STRONG WEBS FROM HIGHLY
REFINED CELLULOSIC FIBERS

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In compliance with Rules 1.97 and 1.98, and in fulfillment of the duty of disclosure under Rule 1.56, the cited documents are made of record on the enclosed PTO Form-1449.

As the USPTO has waived the requirement under 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2)(i) for submitting a copy of each cited U.S. patent and patent publication for applications filed after June 30, 2003, copies of the cited U.S. references are not enclosed, as the present application is filed after June 30, 2003. Copies of the cited foreign patent documents and/or non-patent literature are enclosed.

A concise explanation of the relevance of the following item is that we are advised by our client that this reference was discovered during any searches they or their client had made, or that they were considered in the preparation of the application:

WO 97/04171

In addition, the remaining cited documents, are also made of record on the enclosed PTO Form-1449.

A concise explanation of the relevance of these latter items is that we are advised by our client that these references were cited by the European Patent Office in the corresponding European application Serial No. 02 02 8783. A copy of the European Official Action in which they were cited is attached hereto.

Respectfully submitted,

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RJP/fb

March 11, 2004

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP § 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.

* Abstract provided for the Examiner's convenience